In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A gas service riser assembly comprising:

an outer ductile pipe;

a plastic pipe having open ends disposed within said outer ductile pipe and extending through one end thereof;

a hollow rigid stiffener including a plurality of radial serrations having sharp points formed along the outside length thereof disposed within the interior of a portion of said plastic pipe within said outer ductile pipe;

a gasket positioned around the exterior of said plastic pipe adjacent to said stiffener; and

a crimp formed in said outer ductile pipe adjacent to said stiffener and said gasket whereby said outer ductile pipe is compressed against said gasket, said plastic pipe and said stiffener to thereby form a seal between said plastic pipe and said ductile outer pipe.

2. (original) The riser assembly of claim 1 which further comprises:

a second gasket positioned around the exterior of said plastic pipe within said end of said outer ductile pipe through which said plastic pipe extends; and

a second crimp formed in said outer ductile pipe adjacent to said second gasket to thereby form a second seal between said plastic pipe and said ductile outer pipe.

3. (original) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said outer ductile pipe is a metal pipe.

4. (original) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said outer ductile pipe is a steel pipe.

5. (original) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said outer ductile pipe is metal tubing.

6. (original) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said outer ductile pipe is steel tubing.

7. (original) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said hollow rigid stiffener is formed of metal.

8. (currently amended) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said ~~hollow rigid stiffener includes a plurality of~~ radial serrations having sharp points formed along the outside length ~~thereof.~~ of said stiffener extend toward the open end of said plastic pipe within said outer ductile pipe.

9. (currently amended) The riser assembly of claim 1 wherein said hollow rigid stiffener is positioned in the open end of said plastic pipe within said outer ductile pipe and includes a flange that extends above and radially outwardly from said plastic pipe to a position ~~near~~ adjacent to said outer ductile pipe and above and adjacent to said crimp.

10. (currently amended) A gas service riser assembly comprising:

an outer ductile metal pipe having open ends with a portion thereof adapted to extend above ground and the other portion thereof adapted to extend below ground; a plastic pipe having open ends, the upper open end being positioned within said above ground portion of said outer pipe with said plastic pipe extending through the below ground portion of the outer pipe and through the open end thereof;

a hollow rigid metal stiffener including a plurality of radial serrations having sharp points formed along the outside length thereof disposed within said upper open end portion of said plastic pipe having a flange that extends radially outwardly from said plastic pipe to a position near said outer pipe;

a gasket positioned around the exterior of said plastic pipe adjacent to said stiffener;

a cylindrical crimp formed in said outer pipe adjacent to said stiffener and said gasket whereby said outer pipe is compressed against said gasket, said plastic pipe and said stiffener to thereby form a seal between said plastic pipe and said outer pipe~~;~~, said crimp being positioned below said flange whereby said stiffener is prevented from moving downwardly within said ductile metal pipe;

a second gasket positioned around the exterior of said plastic pipe within said below ground open end of said outer pipe; and

a second cylindrical crimp formed in said outer pipe adjacent to said second gasket to thereby form a second seal between said plastic pipe and said outer pipe.

11. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said outer ductile metal pipe is a steel pipe.

12. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said outer ductile metal pipe is steel tubing.

13. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said hollow rigid metal stiffener is formed of steel.

14. (currently amended) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said ~~hollow rigid metal stiffener includes a plurality of~~ radial serrations having sharp points formed along the outside length ~~thereof.~~ of said stiffener extend toward the open end of said plastic pipe within said outer ductile pipe.

15. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said gasket positioned around the exterior of said plastic pipe adjacent to said stiffener is a rubber gasket.

16. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said second gasket is a rubber gasket.

17. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said open end of said outer pipe above ground is adapted to be connected to a gas meter.

18. (original) The riser assembly of claim 10 wherein said open end of said plastic pipe below ground is adapted to be connected to a source of gas.

19. (currently amended) A ductile pipe to plastic pipe transition connection comprising:

an outer ductile pipe;

a plastic pipe disposed within said outer ductile pipe;

a hollow rigid stiffener including a plurality of radial serrations having sharp points formed along the outer length thereof disposed within the interior of said plastic pipe;

a gasket positioned around the exterior of said plastic pipe adjacent to said stiffener; and

a crimp formed in said outer ductile pipe adjacent to said stiffener and said gasket whereby said outer ductile pipe is compressed against said gasket, said plastic pipe and said stiffener to thereby form a seal between said plastic pipe and said ductile pipe.

20. (original) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said outer ductile pipe is a metal pipe.

21. (original) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said outer ductile pipe is a steel pipe.

22. (original) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said outer ductile pipe is metal tubing.

23. (original) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said outer ductile pipe is steel tubing.

24. (original) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said hollow rigid stiffener is formed of metal.

25. (currently amended) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said ~~hollow rigid stiffener includes a plurality of~~ radial serrations having sharp points formed along the outside length ~~thereof.~~ of said stiffener extend toward the open end of said plastic pipe within said outer ductile pipe.

26. (currently amended) The transition connection of claim 19 wherein said hollow rigid stiffener is positioned in the open end of said plastic pipe within said outer ductile pipe and includes a flange that extends above and radially outwardly from said plastic pipe to a position ~~near~~ adjacent to said outer ductile pipe and above and adjacent to said crimp.